

Application No.: 10/780396

Case No.: 58967US002

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic hook strand having a an extruded thermoplastic base layer with at least a first face and a second face with integrally integral extrusion formed hook elements ~~extending~~ formed from thermoplastic resin of the base layer on at least one face in at least one row, ~~from at least one face~~ the hook elements having hook engaging arms extending at an angle of from 1 to 90 degrees from the longitudinal direction of the strand wherein the base layer is an oriented thermoplastic resin.
2. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook strand is formed from a thermoplastic resin and the hook engaging arms extend at an angle of from 30 to 90 degrees from the longitudinal direction of the strand.
3. (Original) A hook strand of claim 2 wherein the hook strand is formed from an inelastic resin.
4. (Original) A hook strand of claim 3 wherein the hook strand is formed from multiple layers of thermoplastic resins.
5. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook engaging arm extends at an angle of from 30° to 90° from the longitudinal direction of the strand.
6. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from two or more faces of the base layer.

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7. (Original) A hook strand of claim 6 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from three or more faces of the base layer.

8. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from a face in a single row.

9. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the hook elements are substantially rectilinear.

10. (Original) A hook strand of claim 9 wherein the hook elements have two opposing flat faces.

11. (Original) A hook strand of claim 8 wherein there are from 10 to 50 hook elements per centimeter.

12. (Original) A hook strand of claim 8 wherein there are from 20 to 40 hook elements per centimeter.

13. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein there are at least 5 hook elements per centimeter.

14. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein there are at least 10 hook elements per centimeter.

15. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer is an oriented thermoplastic resin.

16. (Original) A hook strand of claim 15 wherein the base layer is essentially flat.

17. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer is nonplanar.

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18. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer has a thickness of from 25 to 150 μm .

19. (Original) A hook strand of claim 1 wherein the base layer has a thickness of from 25 to 100 μm .

20. – 32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A composite fibrous web wherein at least some of the fibers forming the web are thermoplastic hook strands where the hook strands have a an extruded thermoplastic base layer with at least a first face and a second face with integral extrusion formed hook elements extending formed from thermoplastic resin forming the base layer from on at least one face in at least one row, the hook elements having hook engaging arms extending at an angle of from 1 to 90 degrees from the longitudinal direction of the strand.

34. (Original) The composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the web is a nonwoven web with hook strands blended with other fibers.

35. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the hook strand is formed from a thermoplastic resin and the hook engaging arms extend at an angle of from 30 to 90 degrees from the longitudinal direction of the strand.

36. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 35 wherein the hook strand is formed from an inelastic resin.

37. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 36 wherein the hook strand is formed from multiple layers of thermoplastic resins.

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38. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the hook engaging arm extends at an angle of from 30° to 90° from the longitudinal direction of the strand.

39. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from two or more faces of the base layer.

40. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 39 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from three or more faces of the base layer.

41. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 40 wherein the hook engaging arms extend from the at least one face in a single row.

42. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the hook elements are substantially rectilinear.

43. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 42 wherein the hook elements have two opposing flat faces.

44. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 41 wherein there are from 10 to 50 hook elements per centimeter.

45. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 41 wherein there are from 20 to 40 hook elements per centimeter.

46. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein there are at least 5 hook elements per centimeter.

47. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein there are at least 10 hook elements per centimeter.

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48. (Previously Presented) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the base layer is an oriented thermoplastic resin.

49. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 46 wherein the base layer is essentially flat.

50. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the base layer is nonplanar.

51. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the base layer has a thickness of from 25 to 150 μm .

52. (Original) A composite fibrous web of claim 33 wherein the base layer has a thickness of from 25 to 100 μm .